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The Hongkong Telegraph

(ESTABLISHED 1884.)

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January 5, 1917. Temperature 6 a.m. 50 2 p.m. 53
Humidity 65 54

January 5, 1917. Temperature 6 a.m. 67 2 p.m. 60
Humidity 79 82

WEATHER FORECAST
CLOUDY.
Barometer 30.32

7554 日二十月十

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 1917.

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TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph."]

BRITISH TRANSPORT TORPEDOED.

One Hundred and Fifty Soldiers Missing.

January 4, 9.05 p.m.

The Admiralty announces that the transport vessel Ivernia was torpedoed by a submarine in bad weather in the Mediterranean on Monday.

Four military officers and 146 men are missing.

The ship's casualties are not yet known, but it is hoped that the only officers missing are the surgeon and the chief engineer.

[The Ivernia was owned by the Cunard Company. She was built in 1900, her gross tonnage was 14,278 and her dimensions:—Length, 682 feet; breadth, 60 feet; depth, 37 feet. Her speed was 16 knot.]

INDIA AND THE IMPERIAL CONFERENCE.

January 3, 8.40 p.m.

The Indianman has collected the opinions of several distinguished Anglo-Indians on the question of Indian representation at the Imperial Conference.

Sir John Hewett hopes that one of the advisers from India may be an Indian with broad, statesman-like and Imperial ideas.

Sir John Birdwood says he altogether supports the representation of India by a non-official Indian like the Maharaja Sir Pratap Singh, as well as by an official European or Indian member.

Colonel Yate, M.P., hopes that one of the official representatives will be specially selected as a personal representative of the Indian soldiers who have fought so well, and of the chiefs and peoples, who by contributions have helped so well to maintain the Imperial cause.

TREASURY BILLS SUSPENDED.

January 4, 2.35 p.m.

The Bank of England announces that the issue of Treasury Bills is suspended.

THE BALKAN BATTLES.

Another Russian Success.

January 4, 3.30 p.m.

A wireless Russian official message says:—We attacked the heights on the Rumanian front to the south of Mount Bitoch, where we captured six hundred prisoners, three cannon and sixteen machine-guns.

Russians Still Doing Well.

January 4, 5.10 p.m.

A wireless Russian official message says:—After an artillery duel, we attacked the Bitoch heights and broke through a stubborn resistance.

We repulsed six persistent attacks in the Tatroch valley.

We surprised and annihilated a Bulgarian field post in the Dobrudja.

Attacks at Matohin pressed back our detachments, which commenced to withdraw in the direction of Braila.

There is a severe snowstorm, on the whole of the Caucasian front. The snow is deeper than a man's height.

Enemy's Hold on the Dobrudja.

January 4, 5.10 p.m.

A wireless German official message says:—General von Mackensen has conquered the sector north-west of Foceni.

He has also repulsed a strong force of Russian cavalry to the west of the mouth of the Buzul.

The German-Bulgarian forces stormed and captured the stubbornly-defended villages of Macin and Jijila and took prisoner a thousand men. This clears the Dobrudja, except for a narrow strip in the direction of Galatz, where the Russian rearguards are holding their ground.

THE ITALIAN FRONT.

January 4, 6.25 p.m.

An Italian official message says:—Reciprocal artillery fighting in the Carso region has resulted in the destruction of enemy defences to the south of Castagnavizza.

TORPEDOING OF FRENCH BATTLESHIP DENIED.

January 2, 2.45 p.m.

The French Admiralty denies absolutely the German wireless message claiming the torpedoing of the French battleship Verite.

A MILITARY SCANDAL.

January 4, 2.15 a.m.

In its report on the case of 2nd Lieut. Patrick Barrett—mentioned in the earlier telegrams—the Military Court of Enquiry regrets that Mrs. Cornwallis West holds positions of some importance on various public War Work Associations in Denbighshire. It expresses the opinion that the correspondence between Major General Cowans and Mrs. West indicates that the part played by the former was not merely an indiscretion but a departure from official propriety. It says that Major General Cowans disclosed official information to Mrs. West and implicated the War Office, which was then ignorant of Mrs. West's complaints. It mentions that Major General Cowans told Mrs. West that he would fight for her if he had the time.

[In the event of telegrams arriving too late for insertion on this page they will be found on an Extra.]

TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph."]

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

PROHIBITING CEREALS FOR GAME.

London, January 3.

A drastic order is expected prohibiting the use of cereals for feeding game. This will be a heavy blow to game preservation.

THE BALKAN STRUGGLE.

The Eve of a Big Battle.

London, January 3.

The long, stubborn Russian retreat to the Sereth line stretching across the lowlands on the threshold of Moldavia is now virtually over. General Falkenhayn's army is approaching the Foceni and Fandeni bridgehead positions, the two main points of this fifty mile line of fortifications. It seems clear that the two armies are on the eve of a big battle which will have important consequences.

Some Enemy Claims.

London, January 3.

A wireless German official announcement states that Macin and Jijila have been captured.

A wireless Austrian official announcement states that the Austro-Germans expelled the enemy from Mieria, north-westward of Milcov, and repulsed strong enemy attacks south-eastward of Harja, inflicting heavy losses, and capturing 130 Russians eastward of Zloczow.

THE EGYPTIAN SUCCESSES.

Cairo, January 3.

Replying to Sir Douglas Haig's telegram regarding the successes of the El Arish operations, General Murray states: "We are most grateful for our big brother's congratulations."

FREIGHT ON INDIAN TEA.

London, January 3.

It is understood that the Indian Tea Association is issuing a freight statement. "The Times" points out that the Indian merchants have at present an advantage over Ceylon merchants, owing to the fixed shipping rate agreement, of five years duration, expiring in September 1917. The present Indian freight is equivalent to a half penny per pound in Ceylon, ruling at eleven farthings, while the market price for tea is approximately the same. It is now suggested that the Indian merchants should agree to a freight increase of fifty shillings per ton measurement. There appears to be general approval of the principle of some advance.

COPPER FOR MUNITIONS.

London, January 3.

The Minister for Munitions is taking over at current quotations all the unwrought copper hitherto uncontracted for.

LEYLAND LINER WRECKED.

London, January 3.

The Leyland liner Nestorian has been totally wrecked in a fog. The crew was saved.

NOTORIOUS RUSSIAN MONK'S END.

London, January 3.

The Russian monk Rasputin's end smacks of medievalism. He exercised a most malign influence in Russian society, even at the Court. He was known to be a leading pro-German.

According to a Petrograd message three bullet wounds were discovered in Rasputin's head and chest. He was killed at the Petrograd house of one of the most aristocratic families in Russia, whereafter the body was conveyed to the mouth of the Neva in a motor car and dropped through the ice. The names of the assistants in the deed are generally known. The whole of Russia breathes more freely at the removal of a man whose baneful influence and notorious depravity were universally execrated.

THE PEACE NOTES.

Allies' Reply to America.

London, January 3.

The Allies' reply to President Wilson is still being drafted. Whereas the reply to Germany was purposely negative regarding terms, rehearsing only the conditions of peace which were not acceptable, it may be expected that the answer to President Wilson will indicate more precisely the only preliminaries on which the Allies are prepared to negotiate.

Dissension in America.

Washington, January 4.

A significant debate took place in the Senate upon a resolution endorsing President Wilson's note.

Senator Lodge vigorously opposed the resolution, and declared that Congress cannot be expected to respond to the clamour for a peace which is not worth having. President Wilson's action had laid the United States open to a charge of partisanship.

The debate was adjourned, this indicating that the Senate is likely to be against President Wilson.

KING OF RUMANIA'S THANKS.

Paris, January 3.

In reply to a message from the King of Rumania, thanking France for supporting Rumania, President Poincare says: "We are firmly convinced that 1917 will assure victory, liberation and reparation for Rumania."

TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph."]

MILITARY COURT OF ENQUIRY.

London, January 3

The report of the Military Court of Enquiry, mentioned on 22nd ult., gives details of the case of Second Lieut. Patrick Barrett, of the Welsh Rifles.

It says that when Lieut. Barrett was recommended for a commission his claim was supported by Major General Cowans and Colonel and Mrs. Cornwallis West. The last named took more than ordinary interest in Lieut. Barrett, who failed to respond. Eventually he wrote Mrs. West a letter of remonstrance, which the latter sent to his Commander, with the result that Lieut. Barrett was censured and transferred to another battalion.

The report characterises Mrs. West's conduct as highly discreditable—both her behaviour towards Lieut. Barrett before his letter and the vindictive attempts to injure him afterwards, and her untruthful evidence before the Court.

Mrs. West's attempts to influence the War Office are also mentioned in the case of Brigadier General Owen Thomas.

THE GREEK SITUATION.

London, January 3.

The Greek League of Reservists is attempting to excite feeling against the Entente by services of thanksgiving in the provincial towns of Old Greece for the preservation of King Constantine from the bombardment of the Allied fleet.

The Royalist papers at Athens make most violent attacks on the Entente, especially Britain. An immediate declaration of war against the Entente is even demanded, but an immense majority of Greeks are pro-Venizelists and pro-Ententists.

THE WESTERN FRONT.

London, January 4.

Reuter's correspondent at Headquarters states that the British front in the West is now nearly 100 miles long, whereon we have massed about 2,000,000 troops.

TWO ZEPPELINS DESTROYED.

Copenhagen, January 4.

Two Zeppelins were destroyed by fire in a shed at Tondern, Schleswig. The fire was due to a short circuit.

GERMAN ACCUSATION SCOUTED.

Amsterdam, January 4.

The Dutch papers scout the German accusations that the British are laying mines. They point out that no sane person will believe that Britain would lay mines on British sea routes, where enemy ships are non-existent.

THE DUTCH FLEET'S POSITION.

Amsterdam, January 4.

Dutch papers, commenting on the Naval estimates, state that they show that no increase in the Dutch fleet is possible for some years.

REPATRIATION OF ANGLO-GERMAN CIVILIANS.

London, January 4.

An Anglo-German agreement for the repatriation of all interned civilians over 45 except twenty on each side is now completed. It applies to the whole Empire. Germany has agreed to the inclusion of retired Naval and Military men not receiving pay, even though receiving pensions.

SIR DOUGLAS HAIG IN CONTROL.

Lord Derby Disposes of Idle Tales.

Lord Derby took occasion in the House of Lords on November 28 to dispose of current idle rumours about disagreement between Sir Douglas Haig and members of the Army Council.

Vicecount Peel asked the Government whether, under the scheme of reorganisation recently carried out on the lines of communication in France, a civilian had replaced a military officer in an important position, and whether the appointment was made with the full assent and approval of the military authorities in France.

Lord Derby thanked Lord Peel for having put down the question. It was one of those questions which helped the Department, for it enabled them to state the true facts of the case, and so stop all rumours which were being circulated.

It was quite true that there was a considerable change being made now in the work of the Inspector-General of Communications in France. The civilian alluded to in the question was Sir Eric Geddes, who had been appointed to look after all questions of railways, docks, and inland water transport, leaving the administration of the rest of the lines of communication to be looked after as heretofore.

The history of the change was a simple one. The Secretary of State for War, knowing that there would be a large and ever-increasing amount of ammunition to be sent to France, was anxious to satisfy himself that the transportation of such ammunition from the ports to the front would be adequate, and with that view he sent Sir Eric Geddes over, with instructions to make a full report on the subject.

This was done with Sir Douglas Haig's full consent, and the report was given to him for consideration. It impressed him very much, and he adopted the suggestions made therein, and himself asked that Sir Eric Geddes should go to France and carry out his own suggestions.

The position, therefore, could be summarised as follows:—

The proposal for inquiry came from the Secretary for War, and was approved by Sir Douglas Haig.

Its adoption, and the appointment of Sir Eric Geddes, came from Sir Douglas Haig, and was approved by Mr. Lloyd George.

In common fairness to Sir Eric Geddes, he would ask the House to believe that he was not in the least anxious to undertake the work—very much to the contrary. He only did it from purely patriotic reasons, and it put him (Sir Eric Geddes) and everybody else in a false position if the very unjust stories which he (Lord Derby) knew existed gained credence, to the effect that the Secretary of State had insisted on creating a military officer, in order

to put Sir Eric Geddes, who had worked with him in the Munitions Office, in his place.

He might mention that this answer had been shown to Sir Douglas Haig, and he entirely approved of it, his idea being, to use Sir Douglas's own words, that "the principle underlying it is to employ individuals in war on work which they have been accustomed to perform in peace. Thus the plan aimed at employing in the service of the country in the field a skilled railway manager and staff of assistants, experienced road engineers, dock managers, &c."

Sir Eric Geddes arrived in France just at the moment when the need for the services of such a man was keenly felt, and as Sir Douglas Haig said, he "recognised in him the very qualities which the Army in the field required."

Lord Derby next referred to the impending return home of Sir Frederick Clayton, the Inspector-General Lines of Communication, to whom he paid a high tribute, and said his return had nothing to do with the appointment of Sir Eric Geddes. The opportunity was being taken to make a readjustment, which it was hoped would tend to even greater efficiency.

It would be seen that rumours in uninformal circles, which were now being set about, that changes were insisted on and individuals imposed on Sir Douglas Haig without his consent and approval, were absolutely false.

"For my own part," Lord Derby added, "I have never concealed my opinion that it would be quite incompatible with my holding my present office that there should be any interference from outside sources with the military plans and their carrying out by Sir Douglas Haig."

"But I want to go even further than that, and to make the following statement:—

Members of the Army Council—and I speak of them not only as a whole but for each member individually—have complete confidence in Sir Douglas Haig, and they believe that the best way of showing that they have such confidence is to fall in as far as they possibly can with any and every suggestion that he may make to secure the greater efficiency of the Army under his control."

The report that friction exists between the Army Council, or individuals thereof, and Sir Douglas Haig is untrue.

We have a combination of Sir Douglas Haig, commanding in the field, and Sir Wm. Robertson, Chief of the General Staff, which cannot be equalled, and much less improved.

If the public generally would only believe it is the one desire of everybody in the War Office, from the Secretary of State downwards, to do what they can to help a combination which we believe will ensure success for our armies, then these idle rumours, which do an infinity of harm, helping to destroy confidence, will cease, and insinuations will be powerless.

I have the full authority of the Secretary of State for War to make this statement. He has seen this answer, and is in full agreement with it.

DONT FORGET.

TO-DAY.

Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.
Bijou Theatre—9.15 p.m.
New Hongkong Cinematograph—9.15 p.m.

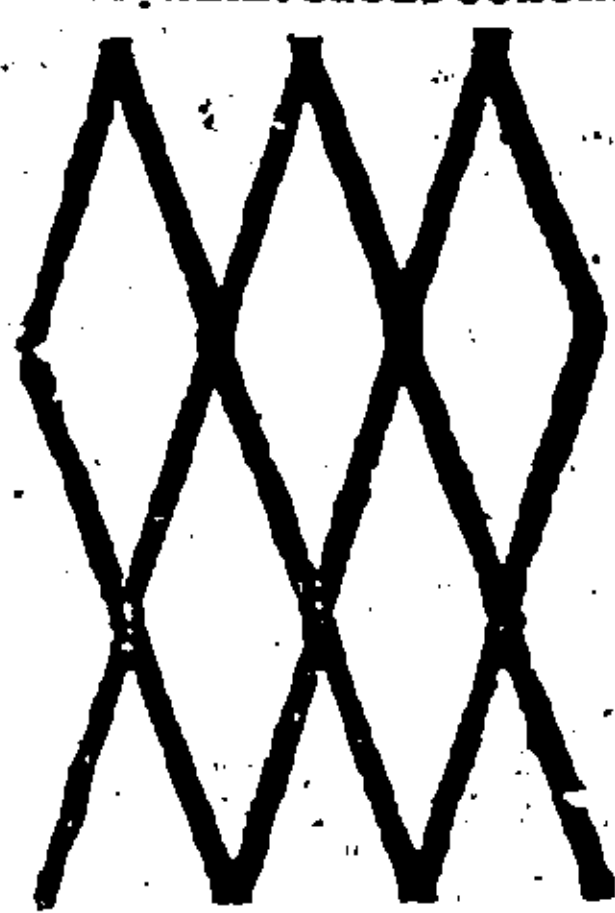
TO-MORROW.

City Hall—H.K.P.B. Sports Night.
Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.
Bijou Theatre—9.15 p.m.
New Hongkong Cinematograph—9.15 p.m.

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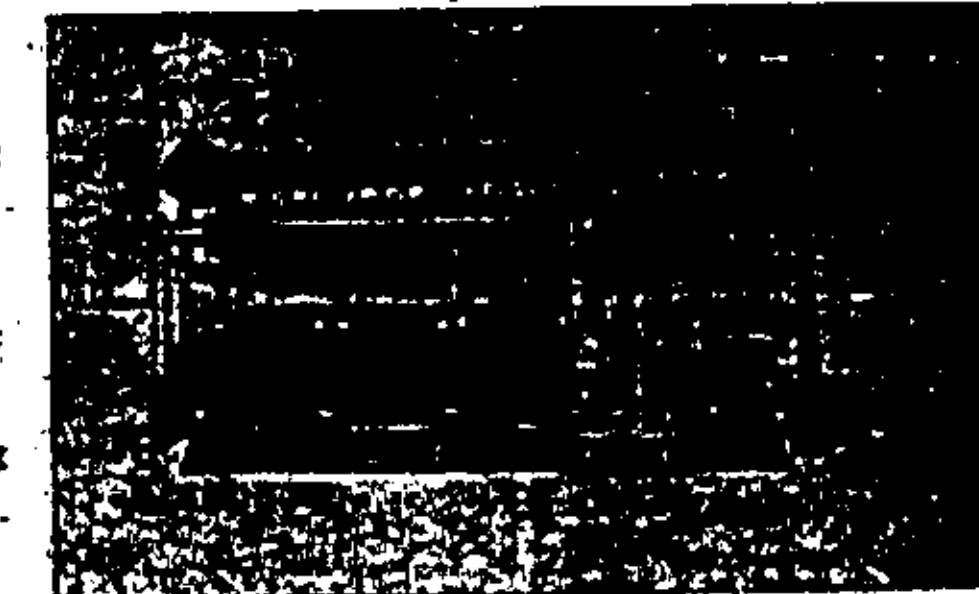
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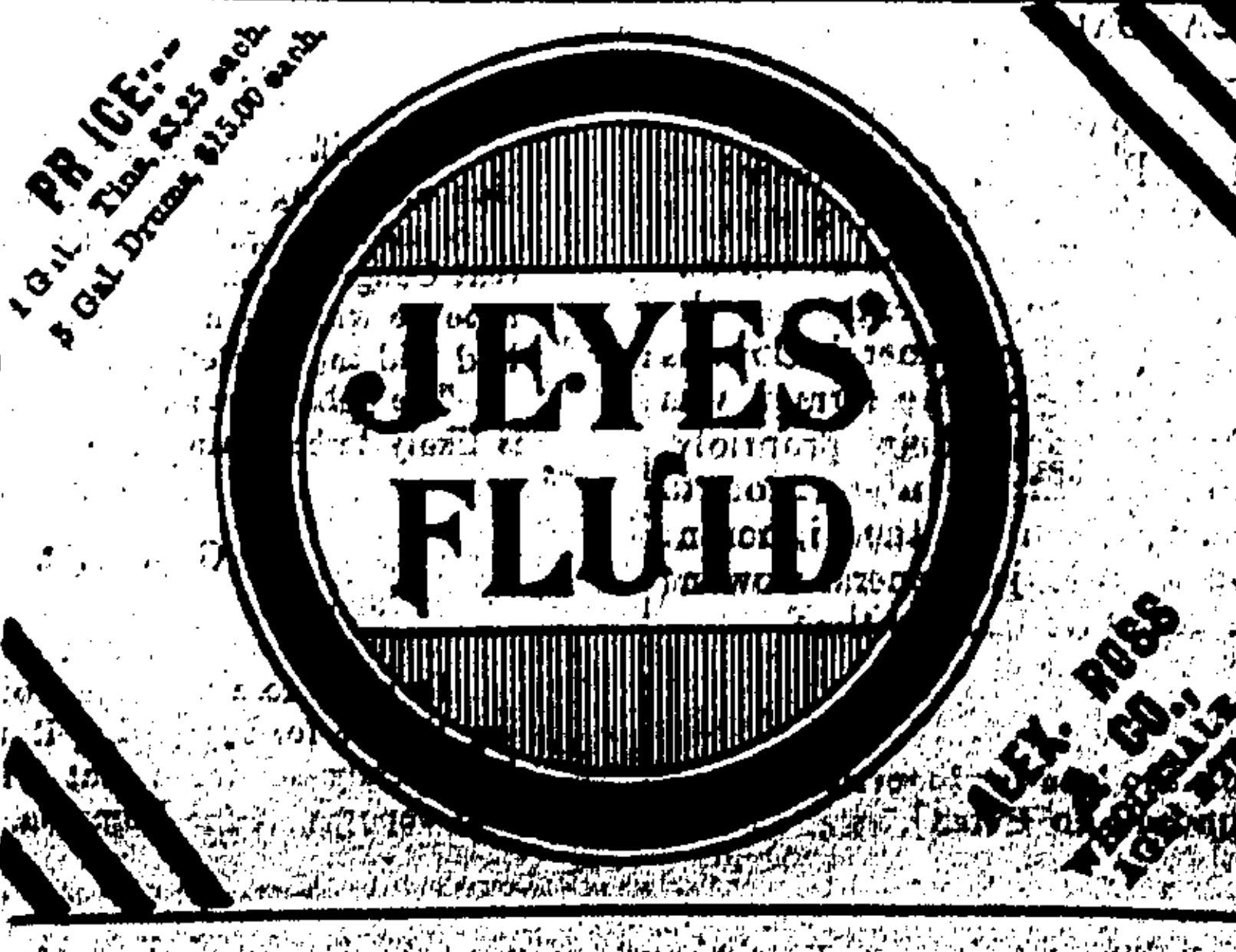
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GENERAL NEWS.

"The Bellicose Meadow."

The Serbian boys in the United
Kingdom are making rapid pro-
gress in English. The extent of
their attainments may be judged
from the following story, which
is vouched for as authentic. One
of the boys was asked to translate
from Serbian into English the
following sentence:—"He gave
up his life on the battlefield." With
the help of a dictionary he
produced the version:—"He
relinquished his vitality on the
bellicose meadow."

Cost of Living in Australia.

The latest returns prepared by
the Commonwealth Statistician
show that the State of Western
Australia still maintains its unique
position of having suffered con-
siderably less than any of the
other States from the increased
cost of living during the War. The
relative increase in prices
since the outbreak of war is
approximately as follows: Queens-
land 43 per cent; Victoria 39 per
cent; New South Wales 35 per
cent; Tasmania 34 per cent;
South Australia 26 per cent; and
Western Australia only 13 per
cent.

Ammunition Boxes.

The Master of the Workhouse
at Tynemouth has been buying
wood, to be chopped up for firing.
What he has bought is 20 tons of
ammunition boxes, made of the
best wood that could be got, an
inch-and-a-quarter thick, with
elm ends, dovetailed and nailed
together. He paid about 61. each
for the boxes; their probable cost
to make was about 7s. With
very little work each box would
be equal to new, yet there are 50
tons more of the boxes in the
market on offer at 28s. 6d. per
ton. We compliment the Work-
house Master on his nose for
seeing a bargain, but we must
kick indignantly against the in-
competence of the War Office
officials that renders it possible.
—John Bull.

U. S. and Holland.

The Netherlands Consul-
General at San Francisco, Mr.
Van Coenen Torshians, who,
says the *Gazette de Holland* is on
a visit to Holland, replying to a
question as to whether the
United States had any direct in-
terest in the Dutch Colonies
remaining under Dutch control,
said that so far as he could see the
United States had no direct in-
terests in Netherlands India. The
relations between the United
States and Dutch Governments
had ever been cordial. Washing-
ton would hardly be pleased to see
a vast colonial area in the Indian
Archipelago change hands, but
Americans had as yet few financial
interests in Netherlands East
India. The San Francisco ex-
hibition had aroused great inter-
est in America in the Dutch
Ladies, but the development of
business must not stop at the first
steps now taken.—London and
China Express.

Building Acts and Temporary

Premises.

It is safe to say that not less
than ten million pounds' worth
of temporary buildings now exist
in this country which have been
erected in contravention of the
Building Acts in order to expedite
and facilitate the production of
munitions. All over the country
there are to be found temporary
additions to existing factories; in
fact, wherever it has been possible
to extend the shafting and instal
fresh lathes, structures have been
erected to house them. There are,
in most cases, no flimsy erections,
but good (workable) build-
ings on concrete foundations.
At the end of the war they will
all have to come down unless
measures are taken to legalise
them. As they stand they are at
once a silent testimony to the
pampering influence of the Build-
ing Acts and an incentive to
reform. Of course they ought
not to come down. Many manu-
facturers would be glad to rent
them from the Government, and
any suggestion that in the event
of their being left standing they
should merely be used as ware-
houses for obsolescent war ma-
terial should be examined very
rigidly.—Times.For a good solid meal at a
Cafe or Table d'Hote with
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GENERAL NEWS.

A Famous Runner.
Dorando, hero of the Olympic Marathon of 19'8, is now driving a motor lorry in the Italian transport service.

Presentation to Famous Editor.
Mr. O. P. Scott, governing director and editor of the *Manchester Guardian*, celebrated his 70th birthday last month. At a large gathering of the staff of the paper, in which every department was represented, he was given an illuminated address signed by 231 men engaged in the *Manchester* and London offices.

Opium Haul at Harbin.
Harbin, Dec. 29.—The railway authorities have confiscated 600lb. of opium at Harbin Station. While a railway official was searching cars where the opium was discovered, his own car was searched by gendarmes, who had received a wire from the station of Manchuria stating that opium was hidden in the chief railway official's compartment. Nothing was found.

American Tobacco Released.
Between £400,000 and £500,000 worth of American tobacco, which had been detained at Copenhagen and Rotterdam because of failure to comply with Great Britain's conditions regarding importation, has been ordered to be released. The United States State Department in announcing the release, expresses "much satisfaction at the concession."

Kuomintang and Premier.
Peking, Dec. 29.—The Senate to-day voted against the appointment of Chang Kuo-kun to the Ministry of Interior, thereby failing to confirm his recent election by the Lower House. It appears that the independent parties in the Lower House supported the Premier's nomination and outvoted the Kuomintang. With a stronger majority in the Senate the Kuomintang has now been able to defeat the nomination thus enabling the political deadlock now prevailing.—N. O. Daily News

Rush on the Parcel Post.
One of the most curious developments of the freight problem is the rush on the parcel post, says the *Japan Chronicle*. Everybody knows how the cumbersome Customs and other arrangements caused a considerable parcel post trade to develop between Japan and Russia in silk and tea. The high freights have caused a still more extraordinary development in the parcel post by sea. The chief lines have mail contracts at fixed rates, and the response to the great increase in freights was the consignment of all sorts of the more expensive goods by parcel post. The Foreign Post office is frequently piled up with parcels of silk or Panama hats, and a mail steamer suddenly finds its valuable freight space occupied by postal parcels, which, owing to the increased costs of running ships, are by no means remunerative cargo.

British Mail Power and Japan.
British subjects in Japan who are between the ages of 18 and 41 have been called upon to report themselves to the Consul in the district where they are domiciled to furnish him with such details regarding themselves as may be required and undergo a medical examination as to their fitness for service in the army. These steps are being taken in view of the probable calling up in the near future of British subjects for service in the army. Any men so called up will have their travelling expenses to Europe defrayed by Government. There is no intention to apply any form of compulsion, says the *Military Attaché* in Tokyo, and the names of those who are unwilling to serve will simply be noted in a separate list. Steps will also be taken to minimize, as far as possible, damage to British commercial interests by the exemption of those considered absolutely indispensable for the continuance of their business, where such is of service to British interests.

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REJECTED MEN'S
GRIEVANCE.Mr. Forster's Promise of a
Remedy.

Mr. Forster, Parliamentary Secretary to the War Office, promised in the House of Commons recently to remedy grievances concerning medical re-examination of rejected men.

Mr. MacCallum Scott called attention to the order recently issued by the War Office calling up for re-examination men who had been rejected and had been certified as unfit for general service. He said he wished especially to complain of the way in which the War Office was dealing with attested men who had been rejected. It made them feel that they had fallen into a trap.

He also protested against the order dealing with unattested men who had been rejected by a medical board since May 28. They were told that they would not be called up at present for re-examination. What did that mean? Was there to be no finality in this matter? Why these constant examinations and re-examinations?

Mr. Anderson said there was the utmost confusion amongst men who had been medically examined and declared unfit. Large numbers of unfit men had been taken into the Army for industrial purposes in order to release other men. That was a direct violation of the principle of the Military Service Act.

Mr. Forster said he quite realized the importance of the matter raised, and he would bring it to the notice of the War Minister, who, he had no doubt, would take such steps as were necessary to remedy the grievance.

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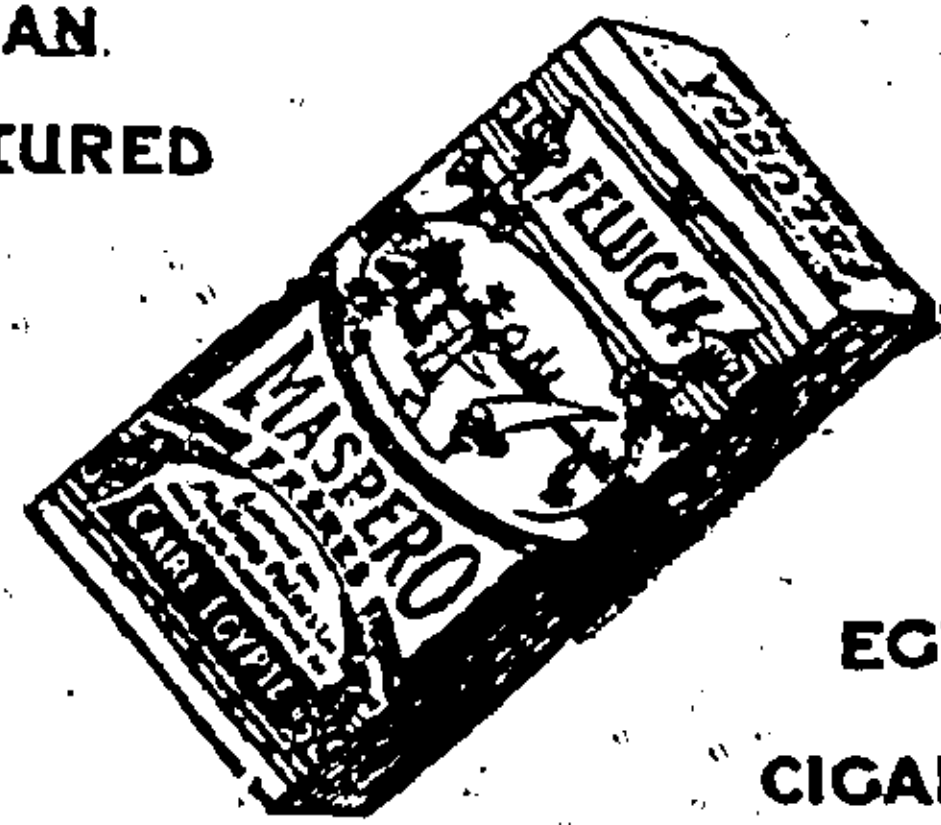
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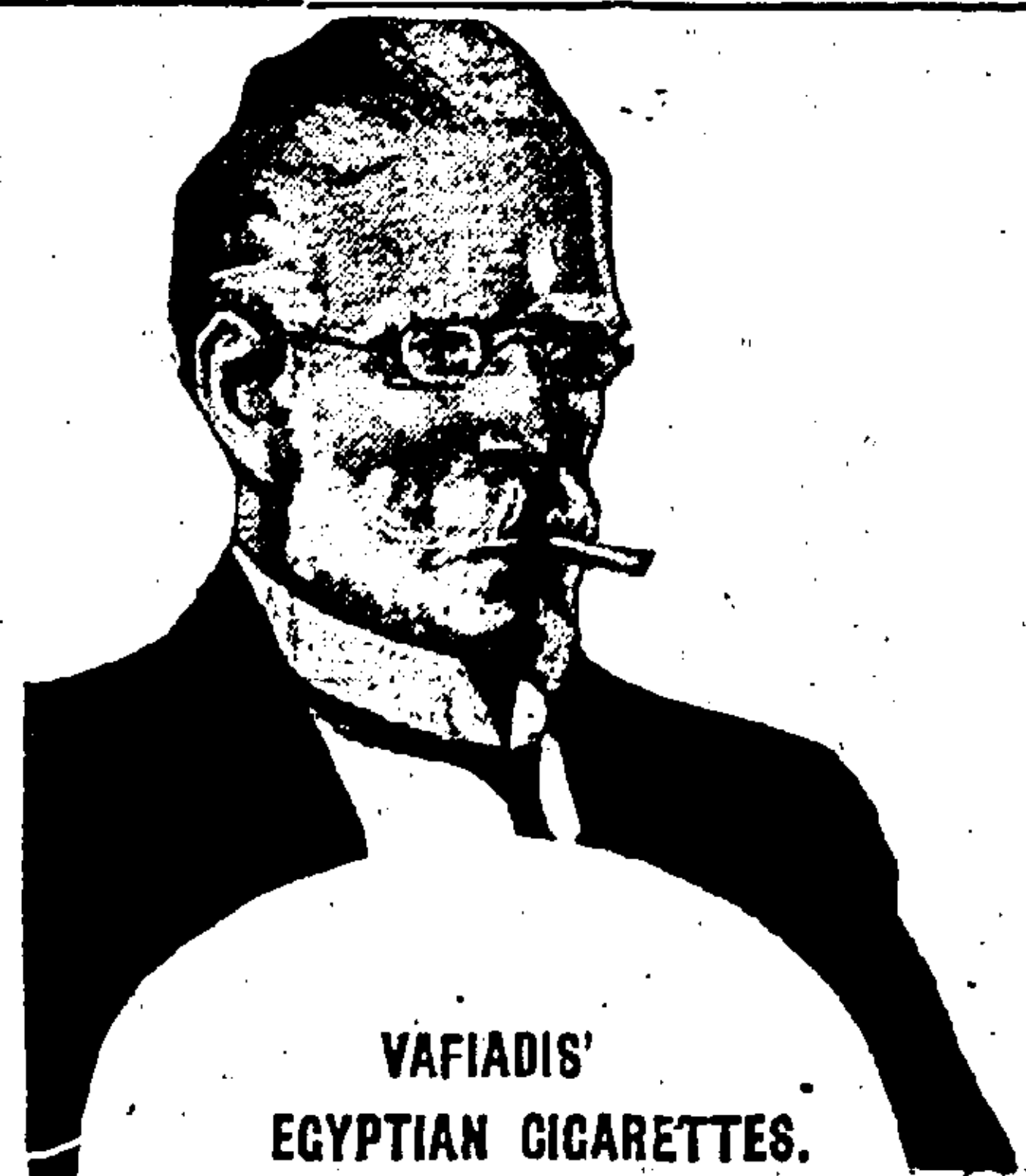
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By Order, "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 1917.

THE GERMAN CRY FOR PEACE.

With the passing of every day, the fact becomes more palpable that Germany is striving might and main in her endeavours to secure peace. It would be a tax on the memory to reckon up the number of peace "feelers" which have emanated from enemy quarters since the war began, but it is only within the past few months that Germany has come out into the open and has publicly declared her anxiety to be freed from the ever-increasing strain which the present struggle is meaning for her. Yesterday we reprinted an utterance by the Imperial Chancellor, in the Reichstag, on consideration of the National Service Bill, and though, superficially, his observations were characterised by the usual German bombast, it was easy to detect a distinct under-current of fear and doubt for the future, especially in the references to the Allies' great numerical superiority and in their free access to the markets of the world. That was well over a month ago. Since then, Germany has shown a growing anxiety to bluff the Allies into peace at a time when her own strength is failing and that of her foes is slowly and systematically becoming consolidated for bigger offensive movements in the future.

Germany's first real move was when, through the medium of the United States, she proposed to all the Allies that peace should be discussed, being careful to refrain from mentioning any specific basis upon which such a discussion should take place. We all know how that offer was received by Allies and neutrals alike. Germany's foes all stood solidly in line, realising the grave dangers of granting her a breathing space, in the form of an armistice sought under the pretext of a willingness to exchange the sword for the olive branch. The proposal was rightly viewed as a clumsy manoeuvre, and, as such, was peremptorily turned down. And this refusal was no mere political ruse, lacking public support, for, to quote only a few examples of the Allies' determined spirit, the people of Britain and of Russia applauded the reply, while the French Socialists and the Italian Republicans backed up the others of their fellow-countrymen in their willingness to suffer every sacrifice which final and complete victory might make necessary. To-day that spirit remains unshaken. It is, if anything, strengthened by the well-founded conviction that Germany is impelled, by the stress she is undergoing, to proclaim to the world that she is reaching the point of exhaustion. One of the best indications of the desperateness of her plight is to be found in the Press forings of greater "frightfulness" and of blood-curdling threats, merely because the Allies do not feel disposed to talk about peace at her invitation.

Precisely in what direction Germany in most feeling the pinch it is not easy to say. But that she is badly weakening somewhere cannot be doubted. In the field, the quality of her men is poorer. She has long since lost her superiority in the air. The destruction by the Allies of no fewer than seven hundred aeroplanes during the past year is an interesting sidelight on that point. As to her internal conditions, the statement cabled yesterday—of great scarcity of foodstuffs in Kiel, of frequent disturbances, of dissatisfied workmen being sent to the front, and of enormous submarine losses—is decidedly illuminating. And the latest sign of the enemy's weakening is the fact that she is at length prepared to submit peace terms to President Wilson. Therein the once again reveals her desperate desire to secure a cessation of the fighting. But, whatever those terms may contain else, they will be so many wasted words if they do not meet the very definite requirements laid down by the Allies. Those requirements are plainly indicated in the Allied Reply. To them nothing needs be added. From them nothing will be taken away.

Hongkong Sportsmen and the War.

Boxing enthusiasts are keenly anticipating the splendid programme which has been arranged for to-morrow night by the Police Reserve. There is every promise of one of the best tournaments seen in the Colony for many a long day, and the fight between Corporal Scott and Seaman Stapleton is at the moment the principal topic of conversation in sporting circles. The Reserve is certainly doing a splendid work on behalf of sport locally, and its efforts are deservedly appreciated. The latest proposal—the holding of a grand boxing tournament during Race Week, on behalf of the British Sportsmen's Motor Ambulance Fund—is one which, we are sure, will commend itself to the sporting community of the Colony. It is hoped to raise no less a sum than a quarter of a million sterling for this Fund, the proceeds of which will go to the purchase of motor ambulances for the Allies. These gifts will be from the sportsmen of the British Empire, so many of whom have already given evidences of their bravery in the field of battle. The Fund has been established by Lord Londale, and, as he is the Chairman of the National Sporting Club, it is quite appropriate that Hongkong's first effort in its behalf should take the form of a boxing tournament. This is really the first direct war appeal which has been made to Hongkong sportsmen, and we have no doubt that they will respond to the movement in a most wholehearted manner. Seeing that, in addition to the money derived from this event, a proportion of the pari-mutuel takings will, as last year, presumably be devoted to some war fund, Race Week in Hongkong should be marked by quite a substantial contribution from the Colony's sportsmen for war purposes.

The Woman in the Case.

For a long while past, *Truth*, *John Bull* and a few other Home papers have been speaking with some plainness about the influence of women in War Office concerns. This morning's wire on the subject of Mrs. Cornwallis-West may be taken as an indication that these papers were not by any means speaking without due cause. In making the matter public, the War Office has exercised a wisdom that is hardly characteristic of it, and we are glad to see that the Report of the Military Court does not spare Mrs. Cornwallis-West. The question now is, does the civil power intend to spare her, in face of the Report's allusion to "her vindictive attempts to injure him afterwards, and her untruthful evidence before the Court." Even if the case were nothing more than that of an idle and sentimental woman, trying to play at political intrigue after the manner of certain French ladies of old time, such conduct would be highly reprehensible in days when the Empire is fighting for its life. But a later wire shows that the offender holds positions of some importance in connection with war work. That she will continue to hold these much longer we can scarcely believe. There is a kind of voluntary service that the nation would be much better off without. For a practical and self-denying woman (and we are glad to reflect that Britain contains many thousands of such) there is ample field for action at home just now; but the country has no use for meddlers—and especially vindictive meddlers; and it is to be hoped that the War Office will have a care in future as to how it permits women to have a finger in the official pie. It is further to be hoped that publicity will not be limited to the Cornwallis-West affair, for there appear to be others. The thing had much better be thrashed out and done with, the more so that the disclosures will be a very timely answer to the many foolish people who are in favour of giving women a right to vote in Parliamentary elections.

A Generous Gift.

Mr. Ho Fook has presented \$1,000 in War Loan Bonds to the Council of St. Stephen's Girls' College, for the foundation of a scholarship in the College, to be named after his wife.

DAY BY DAY.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN EVERYONE IS ASLEEP IS EVOLUTION. WHAT HAPPENS WHEN EVERYONE IS AWAKE IS REVOLUTION.—G. K. Chesterton.

The Dollar.

The opening rate of the dollar on demand to-day was 2s. 4.9/16d.

To-morrow's Anniversary.

To-morrow is the 46th anniversary of the indecisive battle of Dijon (Franco-German War.)

Prize Day.

The Hon. Mr. Claud Severn is to present the prizes at the Ellis Kadoorie School on Saturday, the 13th inst. On the same day, Mr. Ho Kom-tong is to distribute the awards at the Sai-yingpun School.

Faulty Reckoning.

When a man was charged before Mr. C. D. Melbourne, at the Police Court this morning, with returning from banishment, his excuse was that he had made a wrong reckoning. He was lavished for five years in 1912. His Worship sent him to prison for six months' hard labour, and also ordered him to undergo four hours' stocks.

Rebbed in the Street.

The quartermaster of the s.s. *Lokeang* reports to the police that he was in Third Street when he met three men, whom he knew, and they stopped and had a chat with him. Suddenly one of them seized him and placed his hand over his mouth, while the other two went through his pockets and stole \$50, afterwards running away.

To-morrow's Boxing.

In connection with to-morrow night's boxing tournament, we are asked to state that the principal event will be refereed by Mr. H. J. Gedge, as previously announced, but that the other events will be refereed by Mr. W. S. Bailey. We understand that the booking has gone well, and a very satisfactory attendance is anticipated.

Has his Lesson.

A building contractor, who has been before Mr. J. B. Wood several times in connection with a breach of the Building Ordinance, was made to pay a nominal fine of \$1 this morning. It was stated that the defendant built a new storey on an old one without permission and the cost of its being built and pulled down was over \$4,000. His Worship, in imposing the nominal fine, remarked that the man had had his lesson.

Fraudulent Trader.

At the Police Court this morning, before Mr. C. D. Melbourne, Inspector Territt summoned two traders for having faulty scales. The first one was a marine delicatessen dealer, of Wing Lok Street, whose scales were found to be two-and-a-half per cent. against the purchaser. A fine of \$5 was imposed. The other case was against a tobacco dealer, of Des Vaux Road West, whose scales were four per cent. against the purchaser. In this case a fine of \$10 was inflicted.

To Keep out the Cold.

An employee of the China Sugar Refinery was charged before Mr. J. B. Wood, at the Magistracy to-day, with stealing four sugar bags. Evidence was given by Mr. H. Palmer, a go-down-keeper, who spoke to seeing the defendant hiding the bags under his clothing. Defendant's excuse was that he was feeling cold, so he thought he would put the bags round him for warmth. He had no intention of stealing them. He was sentenced to 28 days' hard labour.

Weak Excuses.

A lakong was in Queen's Road East, when he saw a Chinese outside a pawnshop, with something concealed under his clothing. On searching the man, he was found to have some clothing tied round his waist. The man's explanation was to whom it was and as to where he got it from were not satisfactory, and accordingly he was charged before Mr. J. B. Wood at the Police Court this morning with unlawful possession. Defendant's excuse in Court was obviously a specious one, and his Worship sentenced him to 14 days' hard labour.

OUR FALLEN HEROES.

The Registration and Care of Graves.

The Army Council has issued the following circular:—

During the present war a branch of the Adjutant General's Department has been created to care for and preserve the identity of the graves of British officers and men. Units were established for this purpose in France and Belgium shortly after the battle of the Marne, in Egypt and Salonica recently, and an officer has now been dispatched to Mesopotamia.

The Director of Graves Registration and Enquiries is the officer directly responsible for this work. The duty of the Graves Registration Units is to register the position of graves and to see that they are marked with durable wooden crosses bearing a metal inscription giving the name, number, rank, regiment and date of death.

While these units have been successful in registering and marking a large number of graves at the front and many in advanced positions, where they might otherwise have been lost, it is not possible, and never will be possible, to obtain a record of all graves. If, as it is to be feared, the enemy have in many instances not marked the graves of British officers and men buried within their lines, a number of graves will be irretrievably lost. In some cases, even within our own lines, though graves have been marked, the position is too exposed for a correct plan and survey to be made; in others, every trace of a burial ground having been obliterated by the enemy's shell fire there is no hope of reconstructing the cemetery so that individual graves may be recognised. Again, during heavy fighting burials are often carried out under circumstances which make it impossible to take, or at any rate to transmit, an accurate record of the positions of graves. Early in 1915 it became necessary to make definite arrangements with regard to the provision of land in France for the burial of British officers and men. Up till then, and particularly during the retreat and the subsequent advance to the Aisne, burials had often taken place in isolated graves which were, wherever practicable, cared for with reverence and respect by the French peasants and owners of land, and in few cases, permanent concessions of land were offered. By this time, however, French civil cemeteries were being more regularly used, and it was also possible to arrange for special burial grounds. The Director of Graves Registration and Enquiries approached the French Government, through the French Military Authorities, on the matter. The French Government immediately expressed the desire to provide land for permanent resting places for British officers and men at the cost of the French nation, and a law was passed which gave effect to this generous impulse, on December 20, 1915. Since then, in co-operation with the French Army, the Directorate has established authorised burial grounds immediately behind the British front and near the Field Ambulances, the Casualty Clearing Stations and the Hospitals further back. Soldiers are employed, under the officers of the Graves Registration Units, to look after these burial grounds. In the case, however, of a battle or severe fighting, isolated burials necessarily still take place.

The French Government further offered to maintain these cemeteries. The British Government has, however, in agreement with the French Government, undertaken to provide for their maintenance in perpetuity and has appointed a National Committee to care for the graves of our officers and men after the war. With the King's consent, the Prince of Wales has accepted the Presidency of this Committee. Relatives are requested to facilitate the work of this branch of the Army (a) by addressing as few enquiries as possible to the Directorate and (b) by realising that pressure of work, and not want of sympathy, will often

3 NO-CONSCRIPTIONISTS.

Prominent Quaker Gets 112 Days in Prison.

Three prominent members of the "No-Conscription" Fellowship were dealt with recently in three different ways.

At Bow-street, Archibald Fennell Blockway was charged as an absentee, and a recruiting officer said he had refused to do work given him by the Pelham Committee. Blockway told the magistrate that "no officer, no Act of Parliament, no order of the Court, and no tribunal" would make him a soldier.

A fine of 40s. was imposed, and Blockway was handed over to a military escort.

Clifford Allen, chairman of the Fellowship, who was removed under escort to Newhaven from Wormwood Scrubbs last week, was remanded for district court-martial.

Sentence of 112 days' hard labour was passed on H. W. Peet, editor of the *Ploughshare* and a prominent Quaker, who was court-martialled at Hounslow Barracks for refusing to obey the commands of his superior officer.

necessitate a brief reply on a printed form. On the other hand, the work will be assisted if relatives send to the Director any information they possess as to the place of burial. It is not intended, unless circumstances should show that it is desirable, to make arrangements for dealing with enquiries made in person. Relatives are therefore requested to confine themselves to written communications which should be addressed to:—Director of Graves Registration and Enquiries, War Office, Winchester House, St. James's Square, London, S.W.

Much unnecessary correspondence will be saved if relatives will carefully note the following facts:—

1. Some time may elapse after burial before the grave has been properly registered and marked and the position accurately recorded. As soon as this is done, a notification will be sent to the next-of-kin. This notification may be taken as final verification or correction of information received from other sources.

2. It is not possible to arrange for the distribution of flowers or wreaths for individual graves, but the cemeteries, as a whole, are grassgrown and planted with flowers and shrubs, where military conditions allow, under the advice of the Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Their maintenance is under the supervision of officers of the Graves Registration Units.

3. Photographs of such graves in France and Belgium as are accessible to the photographers employed for the purposes are furnished to relatives on application, free of cost, out of funds placed at the disposal of the Directorate, for this object as well as for the planting of burial grounds by the Joint War Committee of the British Red Cross Society and St. John Ambulance Association. All applications are carefully noted and photographs are sent as soon as possible, but it will be understood that in many cases weeks or months may pass before photographs can be taken.

4. Circumstances not infrequently arise which make it undesirable in the interests of the military situation to disclose the position of a grave, although it has been duly registered and recorded.

5. Many considerations, among which is the desire felt at the front to avoid inequality of treatment, have made it necessary to forbid the erection of any permanent memorials during the progress of hostilities; the sending of crosses to France is also prohibited, as all transport is required for material of war.

6. The exhumation of bodies during the war is strictly forbidden by both the French and British Military Authorities.

7. Owing to the great difficulties that exist in Mesopotamia, due to local and climate conditions, the proper registration and marking of graves will necessarily be a lengthy and difficult problem.

(Signed) C.F.M. MACREADY, Lieutenant-General, Adjutant-General.

A GALLANT INDIAN.

Three Brothers in the Hongkong Police Reserve.

Some time ago we announced the honour which had been conferred on a former Subadar in the late Hongkong Regiment—Honourary Captain Ajab Khan, "Sirdar Bahadur", I.O.M.—who is a brother of Chief Inspector Sirdar Khan, Company Sergeant Major Khawas Khan, and Crown Sergeant Hasham Khan, all of the Hongkong Police Reserve. Much mention has been made in the Indian press of this honour, and below we give extracts from the *Times of India* and another Indian journal:—

Honourable Captain Ajab Khan, whom His Excellency the Viceroy of India has nominated to the Imperial Legislative Council in recognition of the splendid work of the Indian Army in the field, was born, in the village of Shadi Khan, in the Attock District in 1873. He was educated at a Mission College at Peshawar, and passed matriculation at both the Punjab and Calcutta Universities in the First Division. True to the Military instinct of his clan, the Khan-Khel (Matani Afghan), as a promising lad he declined tempting offers of civil employment and enlisted in the army as a private. His early education marked him out, no doubt, for advancement. He joined the Hongkong Regiment in 1893 and was given a commission three years later. He served with conspicuous gallantry at the time of the Boxer rising in China in 1900, and received the medal and clasp. In 1902, he was promoted to be Subadar, when the Hongkong Regiment was disbanded, and he was transferred to the 69th Punjab in 1908. At the time of the Coronation in 1911, he was deputed to go to England. He went to the front with his regiment when the present war began and saw much fighting, first in the Sarz Canal, then in the Kurun Valley, and later in Mesopotamia. In the Kurun, on one occasion, he was the first among the party of men who captured a fort tenaciously held by some Arabs, and for his gallantry in this encounter he was awarded the Order of Merit. In Mesopotamia, he won the Order of British India, 2nd Class, with the title of Bahadur, for his gallantry in attending his Commanding Officer, Colonel Smith, who was wounded and exposed to fire. At the final assault on the Turkish trenches at Nasiriyah, Captain Ajab Khan was wounded in the chest by a rifle bullet which passed through his body. He was afterwards invalided out.—*Times of India*.

Another Indian Journal contains the following:—At the opening of the Imperial Legislative Council His Excellency the Viceroy made the following speech about the nomination of Captain Ajab Khan in the Imperial Council:—"There seems to me, however, to be one class which at this juncture has pre-eminent claims to furnish a representative to this Council. Its gallant deeds on the battle-field of the Empire, its loyalty under circumstances often of great strain, and its patience under climatic and other hardships have earned a right to our gratitude and affection. I refer to the sword-arm of our Indian Empire, His Majesty's Indian forces. It was, therefore, a great pleasure to me to be able to find a representative of the Army, whom I could nominate to this Council, in the person of that gallant soldier and distinguished officer, Subadar Major, Honourary Captain Ajab Khan, Sirdar Bahadur, I.O.M., who has taken his seat here for the first time to-day." Captain Ajab Khan has been appointed honorary Magistrate to decide cases in his own village.

Reward for Saving a Dog's Life.

For his bravery in rescuing a dog which had fallen over a cliff at Bridlington, in Yorkshire, Police sergeant Parker has been awarded the silver medal of the Canine Defence League. He was lowered 40ft. down the face of the cliff on a rope.

LONDON RAIDED BY DAYLIGHT.

Aeroplane Brought Down by French Fire Two Hours Later.

London was visited on November 29 for the first time by a German aeroplane. The raid was carried out in broad daylight.

Six bombs were dropped, but very little damage was done. There were no deaths, and only one person was seriously injured.

Official news from Dunkirk states that an aeroplane was brought down there by French fire at 2.15. There is little room for doubt that this was the London raider. A large-scale map of London was found on board.

Lord French's report of the raid, issued in the afternoon, is as follows:—"Between 11.50 and 12 noon this morning, six bombs were dropped on London by a hostile aeroplane flying at a great height above the haze. Nine persons were injured, one—a woman—seriously. The material damage is slight."

At midnight the Secretary of the Admiralty made the following announcement:—"The Commodore at Dunkirk has been informed by the French authorities that they brought down an aeroplane at 2.15 p.m. to-day (Tuesday), carrying two naval lieutenants, and having a large scale map of London on board."

Futility of the Raid. It is highly improbable that anybody in London saw the "hostile aeroplane," though quite a number of people thought they did—afterwards. At the time of the aircraft's rapid flight over London the sky was extremely hazy, and even if the machine had not been flying very high, as the official report says it was, the weather would probably have made it invisible.

The aeroplane, in its brief flight over a corner of London, took broadly a westerly course, and, having regard to the congestion of population and buildings, it is surprising that the casualty list is so small and the damage so light.

The engine was not audible to the naked ear. It may possibly have been detected by the microphone. But as it is not uncommon for our own aeroplanes to fly over London, danger would not have been apprehended if the visitor's presence was signalled in this way.

So unexpected was the bombing in broad daylight that in more than one place the loud reports were at first attributed to gas explosions.

The first bomb was literally a bolt from the blue. The only injury was to a woman, who sustained a cut hand and was removed to hospital. The concussion shattered the windows of a number of houses along a side street.

Then a bomb struck an unoccupied building, exploding on the roof, and causing mischief to the rear of adjoining house on a square.

Glass and debris from a pierced stable were hurled across the mews, and the furniture in the living rooms of two houses immediately opposite was overturned and broken. In each an occupant was hurt. The middle-aged wife of a coachman received a flesh wound in the upper part of the arm—struck, it is assumed, by a fragment of the bomb, and her hand was cut by scattered glass; and a Belgian woman, from Brussels, was similarly cut about the face.

The first-named casualty appears to be the most serious of the number reported; the sufferer was treated at hospital, and afterwards removed to her home where she is confined to her bed.

"I was upstairs when the explosion occurred," a neighbour told me, "and instinctively I turned my face to the wall, not knowing yet fearing what might happen. There were three bomb reports, but one could not precisely locate each, except that the explosion at our very doors sounded as if it would bring down the place. Then I ran out to see about my children, who were at school. I saw the coachman's wife come down her steps, totter along, and fall down. I went to help her."

The children had heard the explosions while in school some

little distance off, and the conclusion there was that these were caused by gas explosions or that gun practice was in progress somewhere within hail.

At another place one house only was damaged. A bomb fell through the roof and penetrated to the basement, but did very little mischief.

A young woman was cut about the face with flying pieces of glass. A woman who was ill in bed, had an amazing escape, as the bomb came close to her head, smashing a wash basin at her side. The bedclothes were covered with broken pieces of crockery and other debris, but the woman herself was not touched, although she is suffering greatly from shock.

A man working close by said the bomb sounded like the bursting of a motor tyre, and if a piece of brick had not fallen near him he would have gone on working as though nothing had happened.

Further west a bomb burst in the middle of the roadway. It made a small hole, and a piece of the metal injured a coachman rather seriously. A stable sweeper was slightly hurt.

To the rear of busy business streets a bomb came hurtling through the roof of an office in which a young woman was employed. She was slightly injured, her hand being cut, besides which she was thrown against the wall and suffered some shock. She escaped from the noxious fumes with which the apartment became charged, and emerged covered with fine dust—"white as a miller," a colleague expressed it.

An explosive, not an incendiary bomb had been discharged; this appeared to be the case in every instance, so far as I could ascertain.

The missile cut through two ledgers on the office, and fragments buried themselves in the walls, whilst a great gaping hole was left in the roof.

The narrowest escapes were a few hundred yards away. Here there was again one casualty—a girl with a damaged hand. She and two others were at the time working in an upstairs room.

By a lucky chance the bomb, instead of striking the roof direct, spent its force against a chimney stack 14 ft. high, and, also by good fortune, the stack fell outwards into an empty yard. The three girls were thrown off their feet. They behaved very pluckily, said a foreman. They calmly made their way downstairs unaided, and then the injured hand was quietly attended to, afterwards receiving six stitches in hospital.

There were escapes in the road in front of the premises, for traffic was heavy at the time. Taxicabs and other motors were on a mid-way stand; women with children were out to see the shops, and had the bomb been deflected in its descent a grievous death-roll must have resulted.

"When these people realised what had happened their self-possession was splendid," remarked a shopkeeper. "There was no panic. Women were horrified but they kept cool."

One of the bombs fell in the garden of a square, and made a considerable hole in this perhaps was the most spectacular result of the raid as far as material damage went.

A farewell glimpse of the raider was likened to a tiny speck at a great altitude, and it is ascertained that its departure was in a south-westerly direction.

Extra police had to be requisitioned—some who had been on night duty being called from their beds—to regulate traffic in streets thronged by sight-seeing crowds.

It is reported that of the four persons taken to hospital three suffered only minor injuries; and were able after treatment to return home. A man more badly hurt, with a gash in the leg, was detained; but his wound is not serious.—*Daily Chronicle*.

Heavy Fine.

For possessing 30 teals of prepared opium at Kowloon Ferry Wharf, a Chinese was fined by Mr. J. R. Wood this morning \$2,000, or six months' hard labour.

EMPEROR FRANCIS JOSEPH.

The Scene in the Death Chamber.

Amsterdam, November 22.—As is apparent from the bulletin which gave the unvarnished truth about the Austrian Emperor's condition, his Majesty continued his usual mode of life and occupations right up to yesterday, but he overtasked his powers, persisting, in spite of a rising temperature and an irritating cough, in receiving the usual daily reports. He also gave long audiences, during which he spoke a good deal.

The last few nights were disturbed by an irritating cough, but his doctors were reassured by his good heart action and regular breathing, which both continued on Sunday. Even yesterday the Emperor worked during the day, although he was more fatigued and run down than usual. He received the archduke Friedrich in an audience lasting three-quarters of an hour.

In the Emperor's immediate circle, however, his condition caused serious anxiety. Recently the Archduchess Marie Valerie has always kept close at hand. His elder daughter, Princess Gisela of Bavaria, and his sister-in-law, the Archduchess Karl Theodor of Bavaria, had now arrived in Vienna, where the heir to the Throne and his consort had remained continually.

The End Sudden. On Monday evening the Emperor, for the first time, went to bed earlier than usual. That part of the night up to 1 o'clock passed undisturbed. Then attacks of coughing began.

He got up yesterday with a high fever, and felt faint.

His weakness then increased during the day, and towards 6 o'clock he asked to be taken to bed. The doctors, despite the Emperor's grave condition, were still inclined to the view that even if a cure could not be expected the development of the malady might go on for two or three days.

In the evening the Emperor was in a profound sleep. Between 8 and 9, when the doctors approached his bed, they were stupefied to find that a speedy end was imminent. The Court chaplain, Dr. Seidl, administered extreme unction in the presence of the Emperor's family.

The Archduchess Marie Valerie, who had remained constantly at her father's death-bed, had gone to the Western Railway Station shortly before 8 o'clock to meet her daughter coming from Wallsee. She was, however, immediately recalled by the Court officials to Schoenbrunn, as after her departure all hope of the Emperor living through the night had disappeared, and shortly after her return his Majesty breathed his last.

Vienna Paralyzed by the News. In spite of the evening bulletin, which left no doubt about his Majesty's serious condition, people still maintained a firm belief in his power of recuperation, and the news of his death, which was published about 11 o'clock, had an absolutely paralyzing effect on the public, who could hardly credit it. All amusements were at once suspended.

According to the semi-official *Fremdenblatt*, those present in the death chamber when the Emperor died included all the members of the Imperial house who were in Vienna, all the Court dignitaries, Baron Burian, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Dr. von Koerber, the new Austrian Premier. The Archduchess Marie Valerie read the prayers for the dying.—*Reuter*.

U. S. Pacific Naval Base.

San Francisco, December 23.—Twenty-five million dollars are to be expended here for the construction of a fleet base on the deep water of San Francisco bay, and for the continuation of the Mare Island yard. It was originally planned to abolish Mare Island yard and construct a new station for all purposes but this would have cost \$75,000,000 and was deemed too costly.

DAIRY FARM NEWS.

POULTRY.

OUR HOUSE FED CAPONS AND CHICKENS ARE THE BEST IN THE EAST. TENDER EATING, DELICATE FLAVOUR.—TRY THEM.

COMPANY MEETING.

The Green Island Cement Company, Limited.

(VERBATIM.)

An extraordinary general meeting of the Green Island Cement Company, Limited, was held at the offices of Messrs. Shewan, Tomes and Co., the General Managers, St. George's Building, this morning, for the purpose of confirming two extraordinary resolutions which were passed at a meeting of the Company on December 15. The Hon. Mr. C. E. Anton presided, and there were also present Sir Paul Chater, O.M.G., the Rev. Father Robert, and Mr. A. O. Lang (Directors), and Messrs. R. Shewan, J. A. Young, J. M. Gordon, W. Lamont, and M. A. Figueiro, shareholders; with Mr. R. Henderson, Secretary.

The Chairman said:—"Gentlemen, as it is past the time for which the meeting has been called, and there is a quorum present, I will ask the Secretary to read the notice convening the meeting."

The Secretary having read the notice, The Chairman said:—"Gentlemen, this meeting is of a formal character, to confirm the resolutions passed at the extraordinary general meeting held on December 15 last. At that meeting I explained, as far as possible, the reason why it was desirable to make a refund of capital to the shareholders. To the remarks I then made it is not necessary for me to add anything now. I will therefore propose the first resolution:—

That the capital of the Company be reduced from \$4,000,000 (Four million dollars) divided into 400,000 (Four hundred thousand) shares of \$10 (Ten dollars) each, to \$3,000,000 (Three million dollars) divided into 400,000 (Four hundred thousand) shares of \$7.50 (Seven dollars and fifty cents) each, and that such reduction be effected by returning (on such date as the Company's Board of Directors shall appoint) to the holders of the 400,000 (Four hundred thousand) shares that have been issued paid up capital to the extent of \$2.50 (Two dollars and fifty cents) per share and by reducing the nominal amount of each of the said shares from \$10 (Ten dollars) to \$7.50 (Seven dollars and fifty cents).

Mr. Shewan:—"Mr. Chairman, I beg to second that."

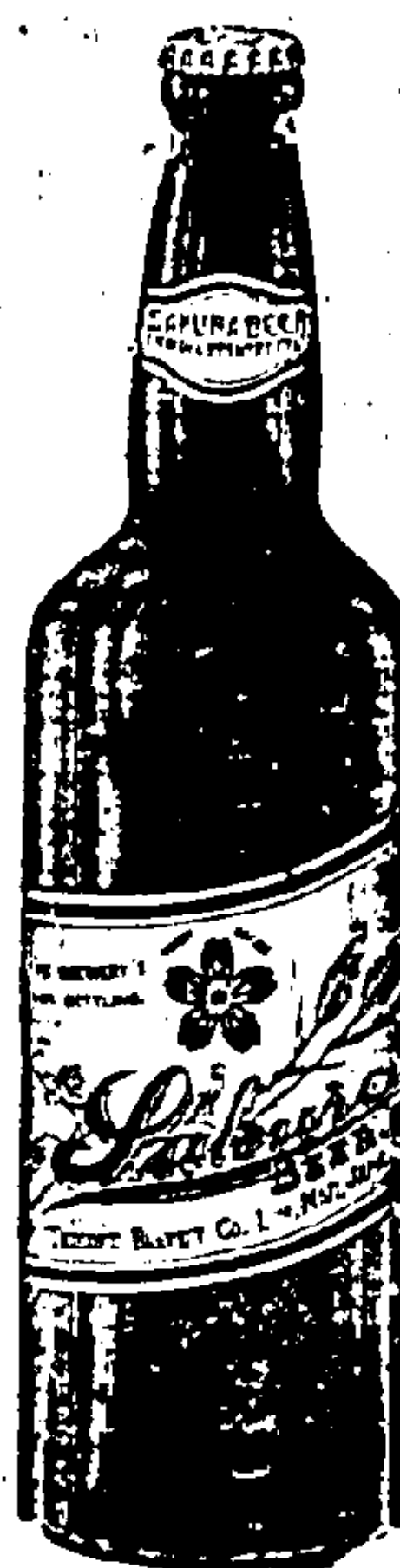
The Chairman:—"It has been proposed by myself and seconded by Mr. Shewan that the first resolution be confirmed. Those in favour please signify in the usual manner. Against? Carried unanimously. I will now propose the second resolution:—

That application be made to the Supreme Court of Hongkong to confirm the reduction of the capital of the Company in conformity with the foregoing Resolution.

Mr. Young:—"I beg to second that."

The Chairman:—"This resolution has been proposed by myself and seconded by Mr. Young. Those in favour kindly signify in the usual manner. Against? That is carried. That is all the business, gentlemen; thank you for your attendance."

SAKURA BEER



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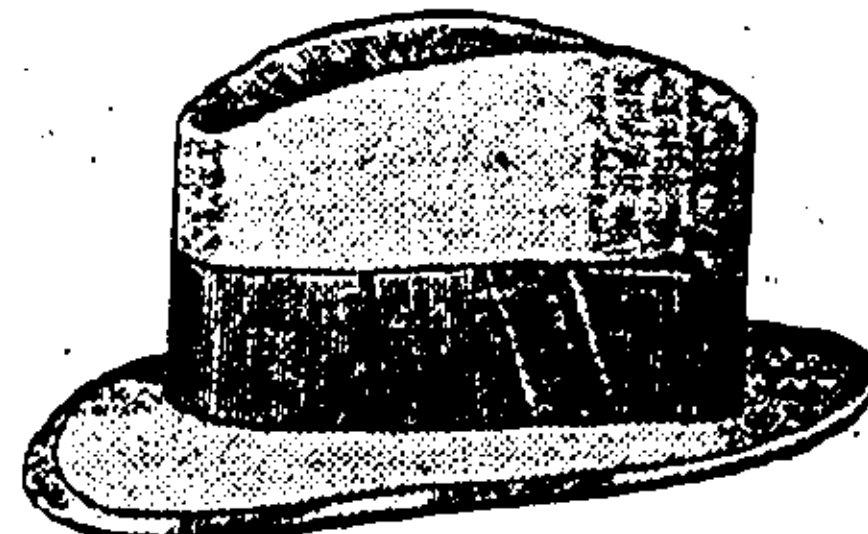
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FRIDAY, 5th JANUARY, 1917.
8.00 a.m. Heungshan. | 8.00 a.m. Honam.
10.00 p.m. Kinshan. | 5.00 p.m. Fatsan.

SATURDAY, 6th JANUARY, 1917.

8.00 a.m. Honam. | 8.00 a.m. Heungshan.
10.00 p.m. Heungshan. | 5.00 p.m. Kinshan.

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EXCURSION TO MACAO.

SUNDAY, 7th JANUARY, 1917.

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N.B.—The Company's will also run a Steamer from Macao on Sunday at 7.30 a.m. and from Hongkong at 1 p.m., from the Company's Wing Lok Street Wharf.

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NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

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risk into the hazardous and/or
extra hazardous Godowns of the
Hongkong and Godown Wharf
and Godown Company, Ltd.,
whence and/or from the Wharves
delivery may be obtained.

Goods not cleared by January
5th, 1917, will be subject to rent.
All broken, chafed and damaged
packages are to be left in the
Godowns, where they will be ex-
amined by Messrs. Goddard and
Douglas on the 5th January,
1917, at 10 a.m.

Claims against the steamer
must be presented in writing
within ten days after arrival of
steamer, otherwise they will not
be recognized.

No Fire Insurance will be ef-
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case whatever.

Bills of Lading will be coun-
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JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LINE,
Agents,
Hongkong, 30th December, 1916.

NOTICE.

THE SEATTLE-VLADIVOS-
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THE ALEXANDRA CAFE.
Just arrived, Large Shipments of
Choice Hams.

SOUTH WALES MINES.

The State Takes Over Control.

From December 1, all the coal
mines in the six counties of the
South Wales coalfield were placed
under Government control.

This bold step to take over the
mines is the outcome of Board of
Trade intervention in the present
wages dispute. Mr. Runciman's
aim and hope is to settle speedily
the controversy between mines
and mine-owners and prevent a
similar conflict arising in the
immediate war-time future.

An Inter-Departmental Com-
mittee has been appointed. Wages
rates will be its first business.

An official announcement was
made by the Board of Trade to
the effect that under a new re-
gulation of the Defence of the
Realm Act the Board has made
an order containing the following
provision:—

"Regulation 93 of the Defence
of the Realm (Consolidation)
Regulations, 1914, is hereby
applied as from December 1, 1916,
until further notice, to the South
Wales coalfield, that is to say, to
all coal mines in the counties of
Brecon, Carmarthen, Glamorgan,
Monmouth, Pembroke, and Rad-
nor."

Under this order the Board of
Trade have directed the colliery
firms and companies affected by
the order to carry on as usual sub-
ject to any further instructions.
The President of the Board of
Trade has appointed an Inter-
Departmental Committee, repre-
senting the Board, Home Office,
and Admiralty, to advise with
regard to directions to be given
under the new order.

The Committee will meet at
once to deal with outstanding
questions as to the general rate of
wages in the South Wales coal-
field.

Text of the Regulation.
The regulation made under the
Defence of the Realm Act is in
the following terms:—

1.—Where the Board of Trade
are of opinion that, for securing the
public safety and the defence of
the realm, it is expedient that this
regulation should be applied to
any coal mines, the Board may by
order apply this regulation (sub-
ject to any exceptions for which
provision may be made in the
Order) either generally to all coal
mines or to coal mines in any
special area or in any special coal
fields, or to any special coal mines.

2.—Any coal mines to which
this regulation is so applied shall,
by virtue of the Order, pass into
the possession of the Board of
Trade as from the date of the
Order, or from any later date
mentioned in the Order; and the
owner, agent, and manager of
every such mine and every officer
thereof; and where the owner of
the mine is a company every
director of the company, shall
comply with the directions of the
Board of Trade as to the manage-
ment and user of the mine, and
if he fails to do so he shall be
guilty of a summary offence
against these regulations.

3.—It is hereby declared that
the possession by the Board of
Trade under this regulation of

WAR AND FINANCE.

Curious American Rolling.

New York, November 28.
The statement given out last
night by the Federal Reserve
Board advising the National
Bank of the United States not to
invest freely in Treasury notes
any foreign Government because
by so doing they tie up their
funds "in paper which is not
liquid," caused considerable sur-
prise here. Such action was
entirely unlooked for, and is con-
sidered a significant response to
the proposal made by Mr. H. P.
Davidson, of Messrs. J. P. Morgan
and Co., which is seeking to sell
British Treasury notes in the
United States.

The Federal Board state that
it is time to issue a warning to
American bankers "that further
investments in paper of such
character and extension credit
to the belligerents are not healthy
banking, but are distinctly the
province of investors who are
willing to take "the risk in the
outcomes." The most surprising
assertion in the statement, aside
from the disapproval of the
Treasury note purchases itself, is
that the board does not consider
large importations of gold would
prove a source of danger or dis-
turbance to this country. Steps
can be taken, it is declared, for
controlling this gold supply to
prevent too much inflation.

Wall Street is wholly unable
to understand the attitude of the
Federal Reserve Board, and
bankers here refuse to make any
comments until they have
thoroughly digested the curious
announcement made. I under-
stand, however, that the belief is
quite general that the action of
the board was inspired by the
extremely attractive character of
the British Treasury notes which
the Morgan Company planned to
put out here next week. These
notes, it is thought, would be
eagerly sought after that it would
encourage the placing of unlim-
ited amounts of similar offerings,
which stood a chance of being
ultimately converted into long-
term bonds. Why this should be
objectionable when they are almost
wholly responsible for the build-
ing up of American foreign
trade, which has reached such
proportions as a result of the war,
no authority here pretends to un-
derstand. The belief is firm rooted
in banking circles that if the
Federal Reserve Board intends
to curtail the placing of foreign
loans in the American market, it
will be one of the most foolish
steps ever taken. It is realized
that the enormous purchases of
the Allies here, who are the sole
basis of American prosperity,
have only been made possible by
the free granting of credits to the
country's best customers.

any coal mine shall not affect any
liability of the actual owner,
agent, or manager of the mine
under the Coal Mines Act, 1911, or
any Act amending the same.
4.—Any Order of the Board of
Trade under this regulation may
be revoked or varied as occasion
requires.

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Patent Slip, No. 1, Kowloon	250'	50'	10'	10'	10'
TALAMON-SHUI					
Competition Dock	400'	50'	10'	10'	10'
AMERICAN DOCK					
Slip No. 1	250'	50'	10'	10'	10'
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K'loon Docks.	b. \$	128.00.
H.K. Lands.	b. \$	95.00.
China Lights.	b. \$	4.75.
China Prov.	b. \$	8.80.
Cements.	sa. \$	11.75.
Ropes.	b. \$	34.00.
H.K. Tramways.	ss. \$	7.00.

CRICKET.

Kowloon C.C. v. University.

The following will represent the University in the above Match to-morrow at 2 p.m. on the K.C.C. ground—Ng Sz Kwong, K. Bray-bay, G. E. Marley, J. D. Wright, A. H. Bumjahn, D. P. Dixon, A. de Sousa, Chow Yat Cheong, W. Hall, G. Hall and W. Gittins.

Civil Service v. Hongkong C.C. The following will represent the Civil Service Club on the Hongkong ground at 2 p.m. on Saturday—Hon. C. Severn, J. D. Wright, W. H. Edmonds, R. A. B. Ponsbury-Fane, R. E. O. Bird, E. W. Hamilton, C. F. Masoun, E. W. Dawson, C. J. Tachib, C. Sara, P. T. Lambie, Umpire, W. H. Woolley. Scorer, W. Ritcher.

K.C.C. A. Team v. University. The following will represent the K. C. C.—J. P. Robinson, J. V. Brage, B. D. Evans, W. H. Stapleton, Lr. E. H. Gray, E. Macaskill, A. O. Brown, W. Key, F. W. Wood, K. McLennan, J. H. Mead.

Craigengower v. Kowloon. The following will represent Craigengower against Kowloon, to-morrow, on the Craigengower ground, commencing at 2.15 p.m. sharp—L. A. Rose, U. G. Southerton, B. Bass, R. Pestouji, S. Jex, J. D. Norris, D. K. Kharas, A. Mann, B. W. Baibary, F. G. Thompson, and F. Schnepel. Reserve—M. Abbas.

POLICE RESERVE ORDERS

Orders issued to-day by Mr. F. C. Jenkin, D. S. P. (Reserve) state:—

Duties Department. As from this date, Section Commanders of all Companies and Ambulance Platoon, the bandmaster, the orchestra conductor, the O. C. Mounted Police, maxim Gunners and buglers and drummers, will each make a weekly report to Staff Inspector Potter stating the parades, lectures attended or unattended by each man in their respective commands. Patrol duties are not to be so reported. For this purpose the week will end at midnight on each Friday. Reports are to be sent in before 4 p.m. on the following Monday. Printed forms have been issued to those concerned.

Police School. All Crown Sergeants and Sergeants of Classes I, II, and IV will attend at Headquarters Club for examination at 5.30 p.m. on the following dates:—

Monday, January 8.—Class I (Chief Inspector Kerr). Wednesday, January 10.—Class II (Inspector Gordon). Friday, January 12.—Class IV (Inspector P. O'Sullivan).

No. 2 Company and Band. Will parade at Queen's Statue, Chater Road, at 5.15 p.m. sharp on Tuesday, January 9. Uniform, caps and rifles. The band will attend. The O. C. Company will take charge. No exemptions are to be granted by the Company officers.

Sports Night, January 6. The Band will attend at the Theatre Royal at 8.30 p.m., and not at 8.45 p.m. as previously ordered.

Headquarters' Club. The Reading Room will in future be open to ladies.

For the Troops. We acknowledge, with thanks, a parcel of magazines for the troops from Mr. Gardiner.

GERMAN SUBMARINE
LOSES ITS PRIZE.

British Patrol Boat's Smart Capture.

The Secretary of the Admiralty has made the following announcement:—

A recent incident is of interest as showing what occurs when the commanding officer of a German submarine departs from his ordinary practice of sinking the ships he meets, and follows, in a particular instance, the procedure of civilised warfare.

On November 13 the Norwegian steamer *Older*, on a passage from Newport to Gibraltar, was captured by a German submarine, who placed a prize crew on board her.

For a time it appears that the submarine remained in company committing the usual acts of piracy on other ships which were met with. Eventually, however, the *Older* separated from the submarine, apparently with the intention of making for a German port.

She was intercepted by one of his Majesty's ships, recaptured, in spite of an attempt to blow her up, and brought into a British port.

The prize crew are now prisoners of war in this country.

Caught in Bay of Biscay.

Whilst in the Bay of Biscay the Norwegian steamer *Older*, a vessel of 2,256 tons, was stopped by a German submarine. Instead of following the usual practice of sinking the vessel, the U-boat put a prize crew on board, and I understand that the attempt was to be made to smuggle the steamer to Kiel.

The route round Scotland was chosen, but the ship did not get far before she was challenged by a patrol boat.

The discovery that she was in the hands of a German prize crew followed.

The prize crew were taken prisoners and the vessel was escorted. —Daily Chronicle.

NEW AUSTRIAN
EMPEROR.

Formerly A Great Admirer of England.

A correspondent who has had several opportunities of conversing with the new Emperor of Austria says he is a smart young man of military bearing, a capable linguist, and at one time a great admirer of England. He speaks Magyar, Czech and Italian as fluently as German.

Both he and the young Empress are very popular in Bohemia and Hungary, and the Empress since the beginning of the war has not only founded many hospitals throughout the two countries, but has spent the greater part of her time in visiting the wounded.

The young Emperor's succession to the throne of the Hapsburgs reopens once more, however, the delicate question of the position of Hungary in the Dual Monarchy. The Emperor of Austria, it may be said, never dies, and when Francis Joseph breathed his last on Tuesday night the Archduke Carl Franz ipso facto became Emperor of Austria but not King of Hungary.

Though ultimately, no doubt, he will become King of Hungary, he has to be crowned as such before he can exercise his sovereignty over the kingdom, and no act of his can be valid until he takes the oath of loyalty to the Constitution, and undertakes to preserve the integrity of each of the Crown lands.

For many years there has been a grievance amongst Hungarians with respect to Dalmatia, which they consider to have been usurped from them by Austria. The Independent party in Hungary, which represents the feelings of a large majority of the people, decided a long time ago to insist, when the time came, upon the new King adhering to the terms of his oath respecting Dalmatia and the other Crown lands, or, failing that, to refuse to recognise his sovereignty over the Magyar State. The Independents have also insisted on the right of Hungary to have a separate army of her own. This has formed the subject of discussion on more than one occasion.

DUKE'S HOUSE
COMMANDEERED.

"Montagu House" for Mr. Montagu.

The Government has commandeered the Duke of Buccleuch's famous town residence, Montagu House, Whitehall, for an extension of the Ministry of Munitions.

About a fortnight previous the family received notice that this might be likely to happen. It is some considerable time, however, since the duke or members of his family have been in residence, and the demands of the Government will not in this case cause much inconvenience. No portion of the house is to be reserved for the duke's personal use, and the treasures of this historic mansion are in process of removal to one of the family's country seats.

No other private residence in London occupies such an interesting site. As early as 1240 Hubert de Burgh built a large dwelling here, which subsequently became the property of the Black Friars, of the Archbishop of York, and finally of Henry VIII, after which it remained the chief Royal palace in London till it was destroyed by the Great Fire. The present house was begun by the fifth duke in 1858. The cost of the building amounted to £100,000.

Montagu House is noted for its great rooms, splendid furniture, exquisite porcelain, its Vandyckes, and its incomparable miniatures. Pictures of Rubens, Rembrandt, Raphael and other great masters adorn the walls. But the collection of miniatures is unique and unrivalled even in Royal palaces. Early in the year, for the first time, they were lent by the duke to the Victoria and Albert Museum.

Though several well-known hotels have been taken over by the Government this is the first time that an historic house of such interest has been commandeered.

SQUEEZING OUT THE
ENEMY.

The Word "British" Suspect.

In the House of Commons on November 28, the Registration of Business Names Bill was read a third time after much criticism, and some amendment on the report stage.

Mr. Prettymann moved a new sub-section to Clause 13, giving the Registrar power to refuse registration of any firm the name of which included the word "British," or any other word calculated to lead to the belief that the business was under British ownership or control, if the Registrar was satisfied that the name was misleading. Any person aggrieved by the decision of the Registrar could appeal to the Board of Trade, whose decision would be final.

This was agreed to. Sir George Cave moved a new sub-section to Clause 9 to the effect that where a corporation is guilty of an offence under the Act every director, secretary and officer of the corporation who is knowingly a party to the default shall be guilty of the like offence and liable to a like penalty.

This was the amendment originally moved to Clause 19 and withdrawn. In the form now proposed it was agreed to.

There was considerable criticism of an amendment to Clause 19, moved by Mr. Prettymann, requiring the names and nationality of all members of a registered firm to be printed on "all letters and cards containing any offer of invitation to transact business," as well as on trade catalogues, trade circulars and business letters sent to any person in the kingdom.

In the end, the Solicitor General said the Government would be content to leave the Bill as it stood—leaving out letters and postcards.

An amendment to extend the clause to the citizens of the British Empire, and not confine it to the United Kingdom was agreed to. The report stage was concluded, and the Bill was read a third time.

WAYS TO PEACE.

American Theories.

New York, Oct. 28.—In commenting upon the prospects of peace, a topic which has been discussed here lately in the public Press, the *New York Times* emphasises that England and her Allies are fighting to end the Prussian nightmare once for all.

"To them life is not so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of enslavement to the Prussian political and military ideal." It seems pretty well agreed here that peace will come to Europe in one of two ways. "Either a conquered Germany will surrender her sword to her victorious enemy," says the *New York Times*, "or the German people, through a late awakening to the truth that they are fighting, not for themselves, but for a dynasty and a detestable political ideal, will end the strife by changing their Government."

The probable way to peace—the better and more merciful way—is through the uprising of the German people against a war begun in wickedness and continued in desperation. It is upon the subjects of the German Emperor, therefore, that the forces of outside persuasion, if any are called into play, should be exerted. In that direction only lies hope. For these reasons, which are held very generally in the United States, the movement being engineered by German sympathisers to promote joint mediation by neutrals is not likely to secure much support.

Mr. James Beak, the celebrated American lawyer and publicist, replying to peace speeches delivered in New York on Saturday, says:

If there is any prospect of a just, durable peace, independent of the growing military power of the Allies, it can only be in two possibilities—one that the great American Republic will accept its share of the common burdens of distracted civilisation by co-operation, by deeds and not by words only to vindicate the majesty of international law, and the other that there may be born out of this awful travail the Republic of Germany. It could be one of the noblest Republics of the world, and as such it would be welcomed, despite all present bitterness, into the full fellowship of free nations. That would probably mean a just and durable peace.

MALICIOUS RUMOURS.

Lord Derby's Statement.

Lord Derby made a brief statement in the House of Lords last month with unusual emphasis of assertion and vehemence of manner. Tales have been going about as to the existence of friction between the Army Council and Sir Douglas Haig. Lord Derby described them as absolutely false. The Army Council—and he said that he spoke with the full authority of Mr. Lloyd George—had complete confidence in Sir Douglas Haig, and he described Sir Douglas Haig, as Commander-in-Chief, and Sir William Robertson as Chief of the Imperial General Staff, as "a combination which cannot be equalled, much less improved."

This was the most important declaration which Lord Derby made, and it was made in reply to a question put by Lord Peel, relating to the recent appointment of Sir Eric Geddes, as Inspector-General of Communications in France. Malicious tongues have set the story going that Mr. Lloyd George insisted on this appointment against the will of Sir Douglas Haig, because Sir Eric had worked with him in the Ministry of Munitions. Lord Derby gave a most categorical denial to the whole story.

As he explained, the facts are that Mr. Lloyd George sent Sir Eric over to France to report on whether any improvements were possible in the lines of communication. That was done with Sir Douglas Haig's full approval, and Sir Eric's report so impressed the Commander-in-Chief that he himself asked that

WHO CAUSED THE WAR?

Responsibility of German Get-Rich-Quick Traders.

In the December *World's Work*, Professor Maurice Millard, of the University of Louisiana, exposes some of the dangers of Germany's trade methods before the war.

Underlying abroad in order to destroy competition, giving excessively long credit to the foreign customer with the same object, leading on no security, guaranteeing one another's paper through the banks, the Germans, in their reckless determination to dominate the commerce of the world, were marching to bankruptcy and disaster. At the same time, Germany's exertions had awakened Great Britain, which at the outbreak of the war was rapidly recovering her long lead in exports. The economic policy of Germany had failed because it could not stay the pace.

"Threatened by no one, Germany felt herself menaced on all sides. She claimed to be fighting for very existence, and she spoke the truth. Her manufacturers, financiers, and statesmen had dragged her so deeply and by such methods into a war of economic conquest that she could not withdraw. The methods employed were now working against her."

In a gambler's hope of regaining by new methods all she was about to lose by the old, she precipitated the war. The article is worthy of careful attention.

OUR PROMISE TO
BELGIUM.

To Free the Slave and Punish the Raider.

Lord Grey of Fallodon has addressed the following Note, dated Nov. 22, to the Belgian Minister:—

Sir,—(1) I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Note of November 16, in which you were good enough to communicate the solemn protest of the Belgian Government against the measures of forced labour and deportation imposed by the German authorities on the Belgian population.

(2) Your Government will not expect from their Allies any elaborate expression of the horror and indignation which they, in common with the whole world, feel in the presence of these practices, hitherto resorted to only in connection with the slave trade. It will be enough if I assure you that his Majesty's Government are ready to support the Belgian Government in every step they desire to take in securing the cessation of these atrocities and the punishment of their perpetrators.

(3) His Majesty's Government, however, have no assurance to give to the Belgian Government at this moment, namely, that they will use their utmost power to bring the war to a speedy and successful conclusion and thus to liberate Belgium once and for all from the dangers which continually menace her so long as the enemy remains in occupation of her territory. This is a cardinal aim and the object of all the Allies, and the people of the British Empire have already been inspired, by this latest proof of German brutality, with renewed determination to make every sacrifice for the attainment of that end.

(Signed) GREY OF FALLODON.

Sir Eric might be allowed to come over and carry out his own recommendations. Thus did Lord Derby dispose of the malicious rumour that Mr. Lloyd George had been unwarrantably interfering in France and threatening a civilian into a military post. The late Inspector-General, Sir Frederick Clayton, is returning home but Lord Derby paid a very high tribute to his capacity, and to the arduous work he has done in the last two years.

VOLUNTEER ORDERS.

Corps Orders issued to-day by Lieut.-Col. A. Chapman, V. J., state:—

Joined. Pte. F. D. Bissaker having joined is allotted Corps No 2046 and posted to Scouts Company. Gr. W. H. Stapleton having joined is allotted Corps No 2047 and posted to Belchers 8th Section.

Leave. Lieut. Hall is granted 10 months' leave from April next. No 1831 Spr. N. S. Moses is granted 1 months' leave from 31.12.16. No 1535 Gr. A. E. Silkestone granted 12 months' leave from 1.1.17. No 2026 Pte. C. Hodgson granted 2 months' leave from 3.1.17.

Transferred. No 1829, Spr. J. J. Lysaught is transferred from Engineer Company to H.K.V.R. from this date. No 2008 Gr. J. P. V. Remedios is transferred from Belchers 6th Section to Engineer Company from this date.

Promoted. To be Corporal from this date: No 877 Pte. H. Peiley.

Detail of Engineer Company duties at Lysemun from January 2 to 16 has been posted at Headquarters.

Signalling Section.

(a) In the qualifying test for Signallers held on December 28 by the Command Signalling Officer the undermentioned members qualified:—1st Class: Sergt. Lawrence, J. L. 2nd Class: Pte. Meadows, A. V. G., Pte. Reis P.

(b) This Section will be subdivided as follows until further orders:—Class "A" Trained Signallers.—Sergt. Lawrence, Corp. Young, Loc. Opl. Rocha, Loc. Opl. Harris, Pte. Reis F., Reis P. Class "B".—Loc. Opl. Chaves, Ptes. Ribeiro, Ogley, Wilkison, Costa, Luz, Abbas, Cotton, Rodrigues, Tazap. Class "C".—Ptes. Ramsey A. L., Gomes J. V., Mason.

Parades. Monday, 8th instant:—7.30 a.m. Belchers 6th Section at Belchers Battery. 5.10 p.m. Centre Section M. G. Co. drill at Kowloon Dock. Hongkong residents processed by launch from Statue Wharf at 4.30 p.m. 5.15 p.m. Artillery Battery, Left Section M. G. Co. and Civil Service Coy. company drill on Murray Parade Ground; Right Section M. G. Co. at Headquarters for Route March; Scouts Company on Cricket Ground for Route March; Recruits of all units at Headquarters under Corp. Grimes. 5.30 p.m. Signalling Section Class "B" at R. A. Theatre.

Tuesday, 9th instant:—7.30 a.m. Belchers 6th Section at Belchers Battery. 5.15 p.m. Stretcher Bearer Section at Headquarters; Mounted Section at Jockey Club Stables. 5.30 p.m. Signalling Section Class "B" at R. A. Theatre.

Wednesday, 10th instant:—5.45 p.m. Signalling Section Classes "A" and "C" at Happy Valley for field work.

Thursday, 11th instant:—7.30 a.m. Belchers 6th Section at Belchers Battery. 5.30 p.m. Signalling Section Class "B" at R. A. Theatre.

Friday, 12th instant:—7.30 a.m. Belchers 6th Section at Belchers Battery. 5.15 p.m. Recruits of all units at Headquarters. Corp. Grimes will attend. 5.30 p.m. Signalling Section class "B" at R. A. Theatre.

Saturday 13th instant:—7.15 a.m. Signalling Section class "B" on Cricket Ground.

Detail. On duty 7th inst., Scouts Co.; 8th, Civil Service Company; 9th, Artillery Battery; 10th, Belchers 6th Section; 11th, Centre Section M. G. Co.; 12th, Right Section M. G. Co.; 13th, Scouts Company. Orderly Officer from 7th to 13th inst., 2nd Lieut. Egarly.

Notice. The Commandant acknowledged with thanks the gift to the Cadet Company of a miniature rifle by Mr. P. Tester.

For War Charity. Messrs. Donnelly and Whyte's barrel-organ has enhanced its reputation as a charity-medium by collecting a further sum of £40 for the Belgian Children's Relief Fund. This sum was cheerfully subscribed by Allies and Neutrals on the Shameson on Christmas night.

VOLUNTEER RESERVE
ORDERS.

Order No. 1, issued to day by Major Wakeman, Commanding H.K.V.R., states:—

Detail. On duty from the morning of Sunday the 7th January to the morning of Sunday the 14th January, H.K.V.C.

Next for duty, "A" Coy. H.K.V.R. Orderly Officer, Lieut. J. Owen Hughes.

Parades.

Monday, 8th instant:—The following members of "A" and "B" Cos. will parade at Blake Pier at 3.30 p.m. for musketry (Dress: drill order):—Sergt. C. E. Thomas, Loc. Opl. W. S. Brown, Ptes. H. A. Walker, J. H. Mead, F. A. Mackintosh, K. McLennan, A. Ritchie, A. B. Lowe, J. A. T. Plummer, P. H. Rolfe. Recruits on the Cricket Ground at 5 p.m. under Instructor Sergt. Oxberry. Dress: Drill order. Signalling Section at Volunteer Headquarters at 5.15 p.m. under Signalling Instructor Loc. Opl. G. Lloyd. Dress: Clean fatigue.

Machine Gun Section at Wellington Barracks at 5 p.m. under Instructor Sergt. Bowles. Dress: Clean fatigue. Tuesday, 9th instant:—The following members of "A" and "B" Cos. will parade at Blake Pier at 3.30 p.m. for Musketry, (Dress: drill order):—Sergt. A. Charlton, Sergt. W. McKay, Sergt. C. E. Thomas, Opl. V. W. Daniel, Opl. J. C. Logan, Opl. W. Hill, Loc. Opl. W. S. Brown, Loc. Opl. F. C. Goodman, Ptes. H. J. Knight, G. Gibson, N. J. Stubb, H. A. Walker, J. H. Mead, F. A. Mackintosh, K. McLennan, A. Ritchie, A. B. Lowe, J. A. T. Plummer, P. H. Rolfe. Mounted Section at Jockey Club Stables at 4.45 p.m. Dress: Drill order. Semaphore Class at Volunteer Headquarters at 5.15 p.m. under Signalling Instructor Loc. Opl. G. Lloyd. Dress: Clean fatigue.

Wednesday, 10th instant:—Musketry: Names of members to parade will be published later. Recruits on the Cricket Ground at 5 p.m. under Instructor Sergt. Oxberry. Dress: Drill order. Thursday, 11th instant:—Musketry: Names of members to parade will be published later. Machine Gun Section at Wellington Barracks at 5 p.m. under Instructor Sergt. Bowles. Dress: Clean fatigue. Mounted Section at Jockey Club Stables at 4.45 p.m. Dress: Drill order. Recruits on the Cricket Ground at 5 p.m. under Instructor Sergt. Oxberry. Dress: Drill order. Signalling Section at Volunteer Headquarters at 5.15 p.m. under Signalling Instructor Loc. Opl. G. Lloyd. Dress: Clean fatigue.

Friday, 12th instant:—"B" Coy. on the road outside the Law Courts at 4.45 p.m. Kowloon and Taikeo Sections on the Polo Ground at 5 p.m. Dress: Drill order. Semaphore Class at Volunteer Headquarters at 5.15 p.m. under Signalling Instructor Loc. Opl. G. Lloyd. Dress: Clean fatigue.

Saturday, 13th instant:—Musketry: Names of members to parade will be published later. Machine Gun Section at Wellington Barracks at 5 p.m. under Instructor Sergt. Bowles. Dress: Clean fatigue. Mounted Section at Jockey Club Stables at 4.45 p.m. Dress: Drill order. Recruits on the Cricket Ground at 5 p.m. under Instructor Sergt. Oxberry. Dress: Drill order. Signalling Section at Volunteer Headquarters at 5.15 p.m. under Signalling Instructor Loc. Opl. G. Lloyd. Dress: Clean fatigue.

Sunday, 14th instant:—"B" Coy. on the road outside the Law Courts at 4.45 p.m. Kowloon and Taikeo Sections on the Polo Ground at 5 p.m. Dress: Drill order. Semaphore Class at Volunteer Headquarters at 5.15 p.m. under Signalling Instructor Loc. Opl. G. Lloyd. Dress: Clean fatigue.

HOCKEY.

Volunteer "B" v. 83rd Co. R.G.A.

The Volunteer "B" team did a good bit of work on Wednesday evening when, with only eight men, they defeated the 83rd Co. R.G.A. by 4 goals to nil in the United Services Hockey League. The Volunteer team was as follows:—Boske, Edmonds and Sara; halves, Hackett, Martin and Schoepel; forwards, Stalker, Evans (B.D.) and Rouse. The umpires were Corp. Smith, R.G.A. and Corp. Bell, R. E.

Armed Robbery Case.

The hearing was continued, at the Police Court this afternoon, of the case in which four men are charged with being concerned in an armed robbery at 72, Ko Shing Street, on the 25th of last month. The first two defendants said they had nothing to say, and the others made long rambling statements in which they said they had been invited to a dinner party and while they were having the feast the police arrived and they were arrested. One of the defendants was charged with having a revolver on him at the time of the robbery. The case is expected to continue for some time.

